THE HINDOO PATRIOT

With which is incorporated the Indian Field.

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TOWN.....11-8.
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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 19TH SEPTEMBER.

WE ARE GLAD to see it stated that it is proposed to appoint a Native Judge to the Bench of the North West High Court. The initiative has been taken by Lord Ripon. Rumours of this kind have ever and anon been afloat, but this time the rumour must have a good foundation, when Lord Ripon's name is associated with it.

THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR of the North Western Provinces has issued a very important order. It is stated that "His Honor has observed from petitions sent to Government by persons who have been degraded or deprived of their situations in the public service, that the petitioners have not had an opportunity of explaining their conduct and of making their defence before being reduced or dismissed from their appointments." Sir George Couper has, therefore, directed that "in all cases of punishments and especially in all cases of dismissal, the person concerned must be given a hearing before the final order in his case is passed; and that a formal proceeding, embodying the statements taken and the reasons of dismissal, must invariably be recorded. If the offence be one of which a formal prosecution might have been ordered, the reason why it was considered inexpedient or unnecessary to adopt that course should also be recorded." The other local Governments ought to issue a similar order. We constantly hear of arbitrary dismissals of poor clerks and other subordinates, and the Government reply to petitions has invariably been—"the Lieutenant-Governor declines to interfere," or the "Government sees no reason to interfere." The Government service in these days is looked upon as a snare. People enter it because they have no other means of living.

WE TAKE the following from the Lahore *Tribune*:

A fracas has recently taken place between Mahomedans and Hindoos at Dibai, in the Bulandshahar district. The *Pujaree* of a Hindoo temple, while performing the usual evening service, was suddenly attacked by a body of Mahomedans, who were assembled in an adjoining Musjid. They assaulted the *Pujaree*, broke down the idol and took away every thing belonging to the temple. The ringleaders are being prosecuted in the Court of Mr. Martin, the Magistrate of Bulandshahar. The Mahomedans have instituted a counter action against the Hindoos. They say that the Hindoos combined themselves and ill-treated their Mouzin, while he was in the act of calling the faithful to their evening prayer. The Hindoos, however, have not been summoned.

We are sorry to observe that the ill-feeling between Hindus and Mahomedans is increasing.

THE SAME PAPER has the following:

A Correspondent at Ludhiana calls our attention to the immorality of the *saradh* days, which commenced on the 8th current, and gives an account of what is being done in that town in these so-called sacred days. Girls of from 12 to 20 go, often at the dead of night, during these days, to the river Budha, flowing by Ludhiana, for *ashnan*. On their way to the river they sing out such shamefully abusive and indecent songs that the less said about them the better. Troops of bad men go to the *ghat* where the girls bathe. After taking their bath the girls stand in two lines one facing the other, and pour out the most abominable abuse, the girls of each party directing it against those of the other. On asking a Pandit why girls are thus allowed to play the D—l, our Correspondent received the reply:—"The more a girl is abused during the *saradh* days, the longer lives her husband." The particular custom under notice is not peculiar to Ludhiana; it is more or less prevalent in most parts of the Punjab.

The sooner this abomination is put down the better.

THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA through the Press Commissioner contradicts the statement that there has been systematic decoying of European girls in Bombay for immoral purposes. We have, however, heard a story, which we give as we have received it, though we do not know how far it is well founded. We are told that peasant girls from Germany make tours in different places for immoral gain, and when they have made sufficient earnings they return home, the wages of their sin constitute their marriage portion when they are married.

TUESDAY, 20TH SEPTEMBER.

THERE SEEMS to be great dissatisfaction in Bombay against the appointment of one Mr. Jayaker, formerly a clerk of a Presidency Magistrate of the town, to the Police Bench of the Western Capital. The Vakils' Association of Bombay has submitted a protest to the High Court against this appointment. They state that the announcement of Mr. Jayaker's appointment in the newspapers was received by the entire body of pleaders with great surprise, as, in their opinion, Mr. Jayaker was not qualified by either his profession, standing or educational attainments to occupy the responsible post to which, it was said, he had been nominated. The High Court has replied that the appointment rested with the Government. The appointment will be only for a fortnight.

MESSRS. J. AND R. MAXWELL, London, are bringing out an edition of Sir Walter Scott's Novels at 1*d.* each. This is a very important step in popular education.

KURACHI AHEAD! The local paper says: "Mahomedan gentlemen affect English boots, live like Englishmen, and engage professors of music to teach their wives to execute on the piano. The sons of Zoroaster delight to sit at the same table with Christians, and to discuss the good things of life with the utmost gusto imaginable; while their daughters do not now bolt into their private rooms when they see a Sahib, but are glad to shake hands with him and take part in the gossip of the day. Even the prejudices of the Hindu in this city are unable to hold their own against this tide of innovation." Come improvement on the car of time!

THE TIMES OF INDIA has the following:

The *Annual Reports on the Jails in the Bombay Presidency* have been withheld from the public ever since the year 1874, and since that time all who are interested in jail statistics have had to content themselves with the *rechauffe* of the *Reports* as presented in the Government Resolutions. In the last Government Resolution we read that "there has been a very satisfactory improvement in the health of the prisoners during the year under review, the mortality having been half what it was in the previous year." This was welcome news, for as Dr. Lethbridge pointed out in replying to the strictures upon the jails of Bengal, the mortality in the Bombay jails has been higher than in any other in India. It was, as he showed, from the returns as quoted in the Government Resolutions, 124 per thousand in 1878, and 112 per thousand in 1879. Half of 112 is of course 56.

But Sir Ashley Eden is made of different stuff. He has boldly made the statement regarding Bengal, openly exposed the cause, and readily applied the remedy. And yet he is abused by unscrupulous critics, while the other Governors are let off.

THE DEATH is announced of Abbas Khan of Hil, the notorious free-booter, whose capture three years ago on the Hazara border is believed to have been the cause of the Alaiwal raids. He died from fever in the Lahore jail about a week ago.

FROM ST. PETERSBURG it is announced that the new political and commercial treaty between Russia and China, which has now been fully ratified, surrenders to the latter power Kuldja territory so far as the River Khorgos, while Russia retains a strip of land for the settlement of those who may become Russians within the year. China binds herself to pay an indemnity of nine million roubles, in six instalments extending over two years. The duties on tea are to be diminished according to quality.

WEDNESDAY, 21ST SEPTEMBER.

IT IS REPORTED from St. Petersburg that there was recently found painted on the seats of the Emperor's private garden at Peterhoff an announcement that his Majesty had been condemned to death by the Revolutionary Committee.

WONDERS will never cease. It is stated that offers are being made for Mr. Bradlaugh's torn coat. One person, name withheld, offers £20; another, writing from Plymouth, £10; and a third suggests that the garment should be raffled for, and offers to take 100 tickets. To all these offers the owner replies, loftily:—"We are conscious of the very kindly feeling that prompts these offers, but the coat is not for sale. The payment for the tearing will be made by foes, and until that payment has been exacted, the coat has a very special value as a reminder." The coat was torn in a scuffle in Parliament house.

SIMLA is thus described in a recent letter: "The roads are giving way like surgarcandy, the mud lies ankle-deep in certain quarters, and both the slate-tiled and the mudroofed houses alike leak like sieves." Simla is really a paradise.

THE CULTIVATION of indigo has attracted the attention of certain enterprising men in Mysore, and we hear that an attempt has been made to grow the leaf there. The districts of Cuddapah, Kurnool and Nellore were at one time noted for the superior supplies of indigo manufactured there.

AN AMERICAN DOCTOR HAS INVENTED AN apparatus which combines all the advantages of shampooing and mild electric shocks, The instrument works on the magneto-electric principle, and therefore requires no battery-; while it is so portable that it can be carried in the pocket. This is just the thing for India.

THE MAHARAJA OF MYSORE has issued a Minute stating that his desire is to take his subjects into his confidence regarding administrative affairs. With this object an annual meeting will be held at Mysore after the *Dusserah* festival, of representative landholders and merchants, when the Dewan will report the results of the past year's administration and submit a programme of the coming year's. The actual expenses of the deputation will be paid by the State. This is a move in the right direction.

How HAPPY are the Judges of the High Court, North West Provinces. They work only 162 days out of 365 days in the year. The following is a list of their holidays:

Every Saturday and every Sunday	...	104 days.
Long vacation (excluding Sundays)	...	60 „
Moharram (do do)	...	8 „
Christmas Holidays		6 „
Miscellaneous holidays (including Eclipses)		25 „

All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy!

THURSDAY, 22ND SEPTEMBER.

WE GLEAN the following items of Indian intelligence from the *Journal of the National Indian Association*: Babu Parvatinath Datta has passed in the Second Division of the First B.Sc. and Preliminary M.B. Examination of the University of London Babu A. C. Chatterjea has passed the L.R.C.S. and L.M. Examinations at Glasgow. Mr. J. K. Kanga has passed the Netley Examination of the Indian Medical Service Candidates."

YESTERDAY'S CALCUTTA GAZETTE records the thanks of the Lieutenant-Governor to Raja Promothocharan Dev Roy, for his offer to make over to Government securities to the value of Rs. 3,700 for the establishment of a monthly scholarship of Rs. 4, tenable for three years by one of the successful candidates at the Sanskrit Titles' Examination in any branch or branches of Sanskrit Philosophy (*Darsana Sastra*) who is desirous of prosecuting his studies in any of the six schools of Sanskrit Philosophy at the Benaras College. The scholarship will be designated the "Rani Madhumati Devya Scholarship," in memory of the mother of the founder. Raja Promothocharan Dev Roy is an ex-ward of the late Wards' Institution.

THE VICEROY has conferred the title of Rai Bahadur, as a personal distinction, upon Gundubogula Ramanah Naidu, Inspector of the Vizagapatam Police.

THE BISHOP of Calcutta, the Hon'ble the Maharaja Jotendromohun Tagore Bahadur C. S. I. and Surgeon Major G. King are appointed members of the Board of Visitors of the Engineering College at Howrah.

A CORRESPONDENT writes to us as follows:

In the enumeration list, drawn by Hon'ble Peary Mohun Mookerji, of the District Roads constructed solely at the expense of the Zemindars of Bengal we notice with regret the omission of an important Feeder Road from Boinchee to Bhastara a distance of 7 miles. Some 20 years ago the whole expense of the construction of this road was, like that of Tribani Road, borne by the Zemindars of Bhastara. Both these roads were handed over to Government, more than ten years ago, in consideration of their being metalled. But we are sorry to say that instead of metalling the roads, even the annual *kucha* repairs made under the management of the D. R. C. are simply ridiculous. The Road-Cess Engineer scarcely takes any notice of the roads in our quarter. The contractors who get 30 or 40 rupees per mile expend not more than 10 Rs. with impunity, in mere surface-dressing and rut-filling. Consequently the roads are coming down year by year to the level of paddy-fields. We lately submitted an application signed by 437 villagers to the Chairman before the Budget-Meeting, stating their grievances in full and reminding him of the pledges of Government. But to our misfortune, nothing is done yet to satisfy the rate-payers.

SASIBHUSHAN MITRA.
Bhastara.

We give the following summary of a letter we have received from Dacca :

There is a wail of lamentation in Dacca in consequence of the decision of the Hon'ble the High Court in case of Baboo Gungachurn Sircar, Sub-Judge of Dacca. The Court has finally decided that the Native Judge shall retire. It would appear from the correspondence we have received from Dacca that all classes of people have been surprised at the order of the Hon'ble Court which has deeply affected them. The Court in this case has acted according to the letter of the pension rule applicable to superannuated Government employe's. But the rule we believe is explicit, and what doubt remained as to its application has been removed by subsequent explanatory instructions that no Government employe of the pensionable grade shall be compelled to retire merely because he is 55 years or upwards old, if the local Government or the head of the department concerned be satisfied that he is sufficiently strong and energetic to carry on the duties of his office. Our readers will remember that Baboo Gungachurn Sircar had to hear the Dacca Nobobs' case, and he it was who proposed to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal the idea of settling it by compromise. The Babu we hear is more than 55 years old but he had been medically certified to be strong enough to do justice to the duties of his office. And what better and more convincing proof can we have of the Babu's energy and strength of body and mind than the worry he lately underwent in hearing the case of the Nobabs for forty days sitting from day to day from 11 A. M, to 4½ P. M., without complaint. The learned Advocate General and Mr. Branson who appeared for the parties to the suit in the above case bore honorable testimony to the Sub-Judge's bearing and ability in the treatment of the case before him. A numerously and respectably signed memorial had been submitted to the High Court for the extension of Baboo Gunga Churn's period of service and the Court had promised to give it their best consideration, but all this has ended in smoke.

A correspondent in the Chondanga Sub-Division of the Nuddea District writes as follows :

"The virulence of the epidemic fever in the Nuddea District is not less this year than that of last year. The people here are for the most part poor, they have no opportunity for seeing a physician whether Kobiraj or a practitioner of English medicine. They patiently meet death. Here we have public spirited men to come to the help of their numbers, —perhaps they expect no credit or reward from Government. Some days ago a physician visited some of the villages in this sub-division where he stayed about an hour or half an hour and gave some medicines and then went away !

The following is from a correspondent at Shillong :

We have here two notabilities who deserve to be widely known. The first is Dr. Peiver, Civil Surgeon of Gowhati, who neither for love nor money will pay any native his professional visit. You can well imagine what hardship and inconveniences are native gentlemen put to for want of medical assistance in a notoriously unhealthy place like Gowhati, especially where no better medical advice can be had than that of a native doctor. Dr. Peiver though in the Indian Medical Service drawing his pay and allowance from the revenues of India, does not seem to have realized to himself his duties and responsibilities. The next notability of Assam is our comptroller of accounts Mr. H. Biggs. He has made himself famous by his unmitigated hatred of natives as such. Those who can well afford to keep themselves aloof from Mr. Biggs, his dislike and hatred for them are of no consequence, but in what a plight are his native clerks placed in ! There is no limit to their endurance, Mr. Biggs would have every place in his office held by an East Indian. When a vacancy occurs he would telegraph to twenty different places for an East Indian candidate.

According to the programme of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief's tour he will stay at Shillong only for one night. The Chief Commissioner we hear is trying to get that programme modified so as to make His Excellency stay another day.

I am in a position to state that in next cold season a survey will be made of the three proposed lines of Assam Railway, namely, Dhubri Kawnia extension to Gowhati, Mymensing Gowhati line, and Mymensing to Cachar, north Cachar Hills via Naga country to Sibsagur line. The least costly, at the same time the most important of the three, will be taken up. The Chief Commissioner's sympathies are with the 3rd or last-mentioned line.

Friday, 23rd September.

Dr. Mackenzie, Superintendent, Campbell Medical School, notifies that an examination of persons intending to practise as compounders will be held on the 12th December next. As the Municipal Bill has become law, only certificated compounders will now be allowed to be employed in dispensaries in Calcutta.

We are glad to learn that His Excellency the Viceroy has been pleased to reopen the case of His Highness the ex-Guikwar of Baroda as far as his affairs in his present position are concerned. This is as it should be.

It is a matter of congratulation that Col. Osborne has been elected Professor of Indian History at Cambridge. No modern writer has studied Indian history to better purpose, and Cambridge will decidedly gain by the election of the gallant gentleman. Strange to say Sir Richard Temple was also a candidate for the Professorship. Sir Richard is evidently forgetting the epoch in which he lives.

At the last sitting of the Vice-regal Council Mr. Stokes moved for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the law relating to the Civil Courts in Bengal, the North-Western Provinces and Assam, and a Bill to prohibit the landing of certain stowaways and to provide for the recovery of expenses incurred by Government in respect of such persons. Mr. Stokes called attention to the fact that the latter Bill was introduced at the instance of the Financial Department.

The Government of India, being most anxious to encourage the extension of country manufactures, and to reduce demands on England for stores, have, with a view to affording a chance for the establishment of the local industry in malt liquor, suggested the issue of a Resolution by the Governments of Madras and Bombay setting forth the facts as regards the relative price and quality of English beer, and of the beer locally tendered, and notifying a willingness to enter into contracts for say five years for the local supply of a fixed quantity, at certain stations at stated prices provided the brewers could satisfy Government of their ability to supply beer up to a fixed standard of quality.—*Press Commissioner's Office.*

The Marquis of Hartington, replying to an interrogation on the 25th ultimo stated that, in 1878, it was decided by the Government not to re-open at present the Berar question. It was added, that if on the Nizam attaining his majority he should desire to bring the whole treaty arrangements between the two Governments under general revision, the British Government would take his request into consideration. That intimation was given on the understanding that it would not prejudice the decision on the Government of the day about the Nizam. The Hyderabad Government accepted that dicision.

Saturday, 24th September.

The Hindu wills' Act is to be amended. The primary object of the present Bill is to extend to the rest of British India such of the provisions of the Act as have not been repealed by the Probate and Administration Act, 1881. The opportunity has been taken to declare, in accordance with recent decisions, that a Hindu's right to bequeath is co-extensive with his power to alienate except where in an undivided family the right to bequeath conflicts with the law of survivorship.

The testamentory power is to be extended to the Natives of British Burma. The Recorder of Rangoon and the Judicial Commissioner, sitting as Judges of the Special Court, have decided that a Buddhist has no power to make a will. But both Judges are strongly in favour of conferring the power by legislative enactment. The local Government remarks that "the Burmese of the larger towns are in the habit of making wills. They are very ready to adopt the partice of advanced civilisation where they recognise their advantages, and they are quick to discover the merits of any particular custom. In the course of rapid progress which their country is making, they have easily perceived the benefits of a power of regulating the devolution of property by will, and a genuine want for this power has in consequence grown up." The Bill accordingly expressly declares that every Buddhist may bequeath property in the cases and the extent to which he may transfer the same.

Here is an Indian grievance. Up to the present time a duty of 30 per cent. has been payable on Indian carpets imported into France, whereas Turkey, Persian, and English carpets have only paid 10 per cent. We hope in concluding the new treaty of commerce with France England will insist upon due reparation to India in this respect.

Raja Rampal Sing, Raja of Rampore, who was lately in England, was an intending candidate for Parliamentary election, but at the last moment he did not come forward. His proposed address to the electors of North Lincolnshire has been, however, published. An English paper in noticing this incident says : "At first the idea will strike many people as a little startling. But a moment's consideration will show that the intention which this Indian gentleman avows is not only reasonable, but greatly to be encouraged ; that there is no possible inherent disability in his candidature, but that, on the contrary, the presence of such a thorough representative of Native feeling in the House of Commons might be a very decided gain to its grasp of Indian affairs." We think all India should unite to return an Indian member to Parliament. Why should not India have her Roebuck in the House of Commons ?

We are requested to state that Babu Govindlal Rai Chowdry of Tazpat, Rungpore, has made a donation of Rs. 100 for the resuscitation of the Burrisal *Hitashadhini*.

We have received the following telegrams from the Press Commissioner's office :

Simla September 19th—Heavy firing was reported from the direction of Kandahar from day break to noon on the 17th.

Simla September 20th—A messenger who left Kandahar on the 17th, states that the artillery firing that day proceeded from Ayub's side, and was directed against a large body of Kabuly horse, making a reconnaissance to the westward. The Shikarpur gate is now closed, and the Idgah and Bardurany gates are opened on alternate days. Guards of Herati soldiers are stationed at the opened gate to prevent Kabuli soldiers from leaving. Large numbers of Durranis from Tirin and Dehrarwad continue to join Ayub. The Amir has been joined by bodies of horse belonging to the Taraki and Suleman Khell Ghilzais.

22nd.—A messenger from Kandahar with news to the morning of the 12th, states that the Amir has moved his camp to Karez-i-Niko, six miles south-west of the city and nine miles from his former position. The messenger also states that he heard a firing in the Kandahar direction on the 12th. The Amir's new position gives him the Command of the Herat road and every approach to the city along the hill under which the old Kandahar lies. He abandons the command of the Kabul road.

There were 234 deaths in Calcutta during the week ending 17th September, of which 21 were from cholera, 9 from small-pox, 66 from fevers, 17 from bowel complaints, 8 from accidents, 20 from pthisis, asthma and bronchitis, 10 from diseases of the spleen, 33 from tetanus and the rest from other causes. Four children were still-born, 60 died between the ages of 15 days and under one year, 22 persons died at the age of 60 and upwards. Among non-Asiatics and mixed races the deaths were 11. The average of daily mortality was 33·7.

We have received two crammers, viz. Mr. Macleod's epitome of Taylor's Ancient History and Professor K. R. Bose's collection of examination papers on deductive logic set at the F. A. Examination with appropriate answers and expository suggestions. Both the compilers have taken great pains and labour in bringing out their undertakings, but we condemn both as aids to cram.

We have to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the under-mentioned publications and periodicals :— 1. Report on the Meteorology of India in 1879. By H. F. Blandford F. R. S. 2. Meteorological Records for August, September and October 1880. 3. Report on the Administration of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands and the Penal Settlements of Port Blair and Nicobars, for 1880-81 4. The Students' Guide to Sanskrit Composition. By V. S. Apte, M. A. Poona. 5. Report on the Forest Administration in the Central Provinces for 1880-81. 6. Army Circulars for July and August 1881. 7. Report of the Canning College, Lucknow for 1880-81. 8. F. A. Examination Papers of the Calcutta University on Deductive Logic with appropriate answers and expository suggestions &c. By K. R, Bose, Professor of Logic and Mental Philosophy, Metropolitan Institution. 9. The 18th Annual Report of the Uttarparah Hitkari Sabha for 1880-81. 10. Yoga Aphorisms of Patanjali with commentary of Bhoja Raja and an English Translation. By Rajendralala Mitra, LL.D. C.I.E. Fasciculum I. (Bibliothica Indica No. 462.) 11. Journal of the National Indian Association in aid of Social Progress in India, No. 129, September, 1881. 12. Saradotsoba, Opera. By Raja Mohendralall Khan of Narajole, Midnapore. 13. Mahabharatha, Hari Bangsa Purba, Parts I. and II. Translated into Bengali by Kristadhun Bidyaratna. 14. Surwasatti. A new Bengali Monthly Vol. 1. part I for Assin 1288. B. E. 15. Christian Mohila or the Christian Woman, a Bengali Monthly Magazine, Vol. 1. No. 9 for September 1881. 16. A Medical Thesis in Canarese rendered into English. By Marichetty Pundit.

We take from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week :

London, September 19th.—The *Daily News* publishes a telegram stating that the Bey of Tunis has protested against the proposed occupation of Tunis by the French. *Obituary.*—General J. P. Sparks.

21st.—The Native Member of the New Zealand Ministry has informed Government that Maori troubles are probable. *Obituary.*—General Galloway, 70th Regiment.

23rd.—The Court of Common Council have voted an address and gold casket to Mr. Gladstone, with a bust to be placed in the Guildhall in recognition of the great services rendered by him to the country.

20th.—A difficulty has arisen concerning the arrangement of the Turkish Debt, Russia claiming an instalment of indemnity due from Turkey on account of the late war. At a meeting of cotton manufacturers in Manchester, the result of the canvass was insufficient to warrant a general short time movement.

20th.—Mr. Forster, replying to a memorial, said that the general release of those imprisoned under the Coercion Act in Ireland was impossible at present, in consequence of the continued lawlessness in that country.

Tunis September 18th.—The Arabs are still showing great activity, and frequent skirmishes are taking place with French troops.

20th.—Three thousand Turkish troops have landed at Tripoli. The French Government has re-assured the Bey of Tuins that it has no intention of occupying Tunis.

New York, September 19th.—Midnight.—President Garfield died at 11 o'clock to-night, exhaused by repeated severe rigors during the last twenty-four hours.

20th.—President Garfield died without a struggle, his wife was with him in his last moments. Twenty-five minutes previously to his death, he had been sleeping quietly. He then awoke complaining of pain in heart and shortly afterwords expired. Mr. Arthur, the Vice-President, was sworn in as President to-day. Great excitement prevails throughout America. Business is everywhere suspended. Queen Victoria has telegraphed to Mrs. Garfield her deep sympathy.

22nd.—Mr. Arthur, on assuming office at Washington, made a speech in which he said he hoped to profit by

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General Garfield's example and experience. It has been considered unnecessary to convene the houses of Congress

21st—The body of President Garfield will leave Long Branch to-day. The inquest will be held at Washington on Friday and the body conveyed to Cleveland the following day. The post mortem examination shows that the ball had fractured the rib, shatterd a portion of the vertebræ and lodged below the pancreas, where it became completely encysted. The immediate cause of death was the bursting of a mesenteric artery.

IS THE CENSUS OFFICE under the Government of Bengal? Why is it not to be closed during the Durga Puja holidays?

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1881.

THE INLAND EMIGRATION BILL.

THE Assam Labour Contracts Bill is called the Inland Emigration Bill. The history of the Bill is doubtless known to the reader. A Committee was appointed by the Bengal Government to consider the whole subject, and to draft a Bill. The Committee reported that the existing law is defective on the following points; (*a*) that the existing law does not afford sufficient encouragement to free emigration; (*b*) that it imposes unnecessary restrictions upon sardari recruiting; (*c*) that it fails to provide for the enforcement of contracts made otherwise than under its provisions even in the case of imported labourers; (*d*) that it is defective in respect of the remedies provided for employers in the event of the unlawful absence, idleness or desertion of their contract labourers. With regard to the first of these points, no labour-contracts can be entered into under the existing law (Bengal Act VII of 1873) after the emigrant has arrived in a labour-district and further, under section 7 of the same Act, no contract to labour in a labour-district for more than one year is binding upon an emigrant unless it is made and executed according to the provisions of the Act. To remove these restrictions the Bill permits emigrants to make labour-contracts under its provisions after their arrival in a labour-district, and by omitting any provision of the nature of section 7 of Bengal Act VII of 1873, leaves employers free to make with any persons, whether within or without the labour-districts, any labour-contract which the ordinary law will recognize and enforce. Then under the present law, a garden-sardar in order to get his certificate countersigned is compelled to present himself at the Court of the Magistrate of the District in which he proposes to engage labourers; his certificate is only allowed to run for six months; he is not allowed to travel with another garden-sardar if the total number of their united bands of emigrants exceeds twenty; whilst if he recruits more than twenty emigrants himself he must take them to a contractor's depot. The Bill severs all connection between garden-sardars and contractor's depots; and, though providing in the employer's interest, for the effective control of garden-sardars when on recruiting duty, removes the restrictions above mentioned, and gives the widest scope to the working of the sardari system. All this means that the recruiter, who is called the garden-sirdar, will work almost unfettered. Mr. Thompson in introducing the Bill said: "The garden sardars are always labourers who have been employed for some time in the tea-gardens of Assam and have thus gained a good deal of experience of the kind of work which the tea-plantations require. They have come to know the advantages of obtaining regular pay and a fairly good position in the Assam districts; and having eastablished satisfactory relations with their employers, are deputed by them to proceed to their native villages and districts for the purpose of procuring there the kind of labour which is best suited for the work on tea-estates." This is perfectly true, but because the Garden Sirdar is generally an ex-cooly, that is no reason to suppose that he is a better man as a recruiter than ordinary recruiters under contractors, for whom an elaborate machinery for supervision and control is deemed necessary. The Garden Sirdar is the cheaper agency, and therefore the planter employs him. But there is nothing on record to shew that the Garden Sirdar does not play the same pranks that the ordinary recruiter does in the enlistment of labourers. The same tales, allurements, and seductive influences are employed by both classes of recruiters, and we do not think the Government is acting wisely by withdrawing the restrictions which had been imposed on the operations of the Garden Sirdar, though these restrictions in our opinion did not go far enough. Hitherto the Garden Sirdar did not recruit more than 20 coolies, even that restriction is to be removed. Mr. Thompson said: "It has been found, however, that this restriction operates with some severity upon employers, who have to advance a good deal of money in detaching these sardars to such duties; and as now interprovincial communications are fairly well established and are improving every day, the limitation imposed by the present law may be safely and advantageously removed; and the Bill therefore proposes to leave the number unlimited." The Government apparently forgets that it is the distance of the plantations from the habitations of the coolies, which renders all the precautions and restrictions necessary. Otherwise there would be no objection. If the labourers could be moved from the neighbouring districts, they would at once know whither they were going to and what they were about. But it is because they have to go from long distances, and are therefore wholly ignorant of the climate of their destinations and the nature of their occupations, it is necessary that a benevolent Government should protect them. If the labourers are as much liable to be deluded by the garden-sirdar as by the ordinary recruiter, why should the former be absolved of all legal restrictions? Then, again, what guarantee is there that a poor cooly like a garden-sirdar will be able to take care of hundreds of labourers whom he may engage *enroute* to the plantations? Is he in a position to feed them, to house them, to provide for their medical treatment? We have no statistics to shew what percentage of coolies engaged by Garden-Sirdars drop off on the way in consequence of illness and want of proper care and medicine. We think it is of the utmost importance that the Garden Sirdar should be required to shew the Magistrates of the districts, through which he takes his coolies, a list to be counter-signed by that officer, and that in case of death or desertion he should be able to render a satisfactory account. He should also be compelled to make necessary provision for the medical treatment of coolies *en route*. We think the withdrawal of the present limit of 20 coolies is extremely unwise. Then the increase of the term of the contract from three to five years is open to serious objection. We know how heavy is the rate of mortality among coolies on the tea estates of Assam. The rate ranges from 8 to 10 per cent. or for the present term of three years amounts to 30 per cent. or 300 in 1000, and the Government deliberately proposes to extend the term from 3 to 5 years, which we fear will tend to accelerate death. We had expected that the Government would insist upon proper sanitary arrangements in the tea districts, in order to reduce mortality. But the Bill does not contain any thing of the kind, while it raises the term of contract from three to five years. As regards complaints against coolies it would seem that judicial formalities will be done away with. Mr. Thompson says: "Another point which was represented as affecting the present law relates to the remedies provided for employers in the event of unlawful absence of the labourer from his work; and to meet this difficulty, which, like many others in this connection, arises from the great distances in Assam between the tea-plantations and the Magistrates' Courts, it is now provided that, instead of the obligation of a personal complaint to the Magistrate in each case, the employer shall make a monthly list of defaulting or absconding coolies, and that the Inspector during his periodical visits to the estate, should enquire into each case recorded in such list, and if satisfied of the truth of the charge, shall dispose of it as laid down in section 168 of the Bill." The reader may well imagine how justice will be administered under the new system. The Inspector will come and put up with the planter; he will be as a matter of course the guest of the latter, and it would be absurd to think he will abuse the hospitality of his host. He will get a list of defaulters, and without even perhaps swearing the complainant or taking evidence in the regular way will deal out summary justice to the poor coolies. We are really surprised that the Government, which has passed the Factory Bill in the interests of humanity, could reconcile it to its conscience to frame such a slave law as the Inland Emigration Bill is calculated to prove in practice.

HYDERABAD.

THE determined attitude of the London *Statesman* in respect of Sir Richard Meade, the late Resident of Hyderabad, is a matter of congratulation. It is sure to lead to some good results. We are glad to observe that our contemporary has secured a voice in Parliament. Sir David Wedderburn has called for the following returns:

A return of all the amounts either in cash, or as annual revenues from territories, permanently ceded or permanently or temporarily assigned to the British Government by the Hyderabad State, which have been received by the British authorities in India as consideration for the pay and maintenance of two separate Military Forces for the service of that State, known respectively as the Hyderabad Subsidiary Force and the Hyderabad Contingent.

A return of the number of officers and men of arms which constituted these two forces repectively, from year to year from their establishment, up to the latest date readily available.

A return of the active military services rendered by each force respectively to the Nizam in maintaining the internal tranquillity of the Hyderabad State, with the nature and dates of such active services, and the numerical strength of the bodies of men who took part therein.

The motion was unopposed. Mr. Richard gave notice of the following questions on the 8th August:

Whether the attention of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India has been called to an article in the July number of *The Statesman* entitled "The Restitution of Berar," and to the statements made in that article as to the conduct of the Ex-British Resident at Hyderabad, Sir Richard Meade, forcing on the Nizam's Minister, Sir Salar Jung, of one Wikar-ool-Oomra—an alleged enemy of that Minister and of the British Government—as his colleague in the Regency; and whether the Government will state the reasons which dictated the appointment.

Whether also the Secretary of State for India has perused *The Statesman*'s narrative in the same article, of the conduct of the said ex-British Resident in supporting alleged appointment, violent proceedings of this man since his spoliations amounting to a state of civil war in the Nizam's country.

Whether Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India will cause a full enquiry to be instituted by independent persons into the facts alleged in the article.

In reply Lord Hartington said:

It was impossible for him to give anything like a complete answer to the statements contained in the article which he had seen, and which related to a very complicated matter .... With regard to the specific point referred to in the question, the conduct of the ex-British Resident Sir R. Meade, in the appointment of the Nawab Wikar-ool-Oomra as co-Regent with Salar Jung, that appointment was made, not by Sir R. Meade, but by the Government of India, whose proceedings were approved by the Secretary of State at the time. It was impossible for him to enter into an account of the reason of the appointment, which was the subject of a very full report, but he might briefly say that the main object was to adhere to the spirit of the arrangement which was come to in 1869 when it was decided to associate with the Regent, who was a very distinguished representative of the official class at Hyderabad, a representative of the Hyderabad nobility. Whether that was done was done rightly or wrongly, it was done undoubtedly by Sir R. Meade, but not upon his responsibility, and he could not be held personally responsible for it. With regard to the alleged spoliations and violent proceedings of the Nawab Wikar-ool-Oomra since his appointment, those allegations appeared to be made entirely on the foundation of a memorial which had been presented to the Indian Government by nephews of Wikar-ool-Oomra. He had never seen the memorial. It was, no doubt, in the possession of the Government of India, and the Government of India would, if necessary, make a report upon it. The article contained imputations which were very grave on the character of the ex-British Resident, Sir R. Meade. It charged him in a manner scarcely disguised with misconduct and actual corruption. Sir R. Meade was a very distinguished officer, and hitherto of unblemished character. He was at present on leave, and had practically retired from the Indian service. He was on the Continent, and this article had only just reached him. He had heard from him on the subject. He said that many of the statements contained in the article were falsehoods, and that others were gross misrepresentations. With regard to the charges against himself, he said he thought his proper course would be to place himself in the hands of the Government of India, desiring them to take such steps as they might deem proper to ascertain what grounds there were for the imputations that had been made against him. He had accordingly addressed the Government of India. It would be highly improper for him (the Marquis of Hartington) to take any steps in the matter until he knew what the views of the Government of India on the subject were.

Lord Hartington's reply as the London *Statesman* says was necessarily provisional. But there were statements made by him, which suggest some queries. It is true that the co-Regent was appointed by the Government of India, but the question is who recommended the arrangement, and what circumstances led to the recommendation? Was it Sir Richard Meade, and

was the object to circumscribe the power of the Regent, Sir Salar Jung? Why was Sir Salar Jung disturbed? Was he too zealous in the service of his master? Cannot the whole correspondence be placed before the public? Is it so confidential that it cannot bear the light of publicity? The Secretary of State admitted that "whether what was done was done rightly or wrongly, it was done undoubtedly by Sir R. Meade, but not upon his responsibility, and he could not be held personally responsible for it." We can well understand that Sir Richard Meade was not personally responsible for what was done, but it is admitted it was done at his instance, and the correspondence called for would clear up the motives of the ex-Resident for the action taken by him. Then Lord Hartington said: "With regard to the alleged spoliations and violent proceedings of the Nawab Wikar-ool-Oomra since his appointment, those allegations appeared to be made entirely on the foundation of a memorial which had been presented to the Indian Government by nephews of Wikar-ool-Oomra. He had never seen the memorial. It was, no doubt, in the possession of the Government of India, and the Government of India would, if necessary, make a report upon it." But the question is why was not the memorial communicated to the Secretary of State? Why has not the Government of India reported upon it, though it has been before it for more than a year? Is this the way the Foreign Office does its work? If the *Statesman* had not had the courage to drag the Hyderabad business into light, perhaps we would never have heard of it, and perhaps Lord Hartington would not have known any thing about it. This is the most serious part of the whole question. It is sufficiently grave for a Parliamentary enquiry. As regards Sir Richard Meade, Lord Hartington said that the imputations contained in the article were "very grave." Sir Richard has placed himself in the hands of the Government of India. The Secretary of State has accordingly addressed the Government of India on the subject. Lord Hartington added that "it would be highly improper for him to take any steps in the matter until he knew what the views of the Government of India on the subject were." But we hope the *Statesman* will not be satisfied with this sort of close borough enquiry. We want an open broad noon-day enquiry, and such an enquiry can be accorded only by Parliament.

THE PROPOSED PUNJAB UNIVERSITY.

THE fiat has gone forth that the Punjab University College shall be raised to the rank of a full and complete University like the Universities of Calcutta, Madras and Bombay. The promise which Lord Lytton made to the deputation from the Anjuman-i-Punjab at the Imperial Assemblage is about to be redeemed. Every possible effort had been made to avert the blow aimed at high education in the Upper Provinces, but it has not been of any avail. Sanguine people hoped from the advent of Lord Ripon for a reversal of the retrograde educational policy which had found favour with his predecessor, but we must frankly confess that we never shared that hope. Although the new Viceroy, in replying to the addresses presented by the Anjuman-i-Punjab and the Senate of the Punjab University College on the occasion of His Excellency's visit to Lahore last year declined to commit himself one way or another in regard to the fulfilment of Lord Lytton's promise, his utterances left no room for doubt as to what his decision on the question was likely to be. Reading between the lines of Lord Ripon's replies to the addresses mentioned above, we felt no hesitation in saying that His Lordship warmly sympathized with the project for elevating the Punjab University College to the status of a full University, and that its carrying out was merely a question of time. Events have shown that we were no false prophet.

We cannot too deeply regret the decision to which the Government has come in this matter; and our regret is all the greater that the Liberals should have supported the retrograde movement for suppressing high English education in Upper India. Had the Conservatives done such a thing, we should not have been at all surprised. It is well known that Lord Northbrook's most opportune advent to India prevented the further infliction of the serious blow, which Sir George Campbell was aiming at high education in this province. History shows that the Liberals have been the steadfast and enthusiastic friends of progress in every part of the world. The policy of Liberalism clearly has ever been on the side of beneficent advancement both at home and abroad. That a Cabinet containing men like Mr. Gladstone, Mr. John Bright, Lord Hartington, and Lord Northbrook should have sanctioned such a retrograde measure as the elevation of the Punjab University College to the rank of a University, indeed, passes our comprehension. The cry of the authors and supporters of this scheme is on the face of it so taking that we are afraid Lord Hartington and his advisers have been misled by it. The reasons why Anglo-Indian officialdom desires to have a University in Upper India distinct from that of Bengal were explained by Lord Lytton in his speech at Lahore in April 1879. His Lordship said:—"It seems to me almost absurd to talk with apprehension of the possible evils and mischief which may be expected from future competition between the Universities of Lahore and Calcutta. The objects, the methods, the relative spheres of action of these two institutions are not only different; *they are essentially* dissimilar. The University training at Calcutta may be suitable to the national character of the Native populations of Lower Bengal; but it is certainly not suited to the very different national character of the native populations of Upper India. The attempt to impose such a training upon them might possibly weaken their nationality, but it would not certainly strengthen their loyalty. And to deprive these loyal and high-spirited populations of the fullest advantages of a university training which is admirably suited to the development of their national life would, in my opinion, be a gross administrative injustice." Here the cat was out of the bag. Lord Lytton's high-flown language and rhetorical flourishes, of which he is such a consummate master, mean in plain English that the manly Sikh must not be allowed to acquire the independence and ability of the physically weak Bengali. "Enlightened loyalty," according to the dictionary of Anglo-Indian officialdom, signifies an absolute resignation to the sweet will of the powers that be. The average Anglo-Indian looks upon the independent discussion of public questions and measures on the part of Natives as rank disloyalty. He sees that a liberal education has opened the eyes of the Bengali and taught him to fight, by constitutional weapons though, for the rights and privileges, which the generous and beneficent policy of their present masters has promised to the people of India. But discontent among the physically weak people of Lower Bengal has no political significance. The case would, however, be widely different when the manly races of Upper India learnt that a conquered people could have rights against their conquerors, and they demanded the *actual* grant of such rights as had been guaranteed to them. Narrow-minded Anglo-Indians, guided by low political considerations, have come to the conclusion that the manly and warlike races of Upper India should not have the advantages of a liberal education.

It is well known that the present system of liberal education has been a sore point with many men in authority. At the beginning of the present century liberal education was absolutely tabooed from an apprehensions that it would make the people restive under British rule. Subsequently better counsel prevailed. History repeats itself, and under the genial influence of the Punjabi policy the old days returned. A crusade was undertaken against high education in Bengal, but as it proved unsuccessful in this province, the scene of operations was shifted on to the congenial soil of the Punjab. To the narrow-minded thinkers who apprehend that liberal education would make the people of India restive under British rule we commend the following memorable words uttered by Sir Charles Metcalfe in reply to the address presented to him by the inhabitants of Calcutta, when he made the Press of India free:—"If the spread of knowledge be eventually fatal to our rule in India, I maintain that whatever may be the consequence, it is our duty to communicate the benefits of knowledge. If India could only be preserved as a part of the British empire by keeping its inhabitants in a state of ignorance, our domination would be a curse to the country, and ought to cease. But I see more ground for just apprehension in ignorance itself. I look to the increase of knowledge with a hope that it may strengthen our empire; that may remove prejudices, soften asperities, and substitute a rational conviction of the benefits of our Government, that it may unite the people and their rulers in sympathy, and that the differences which separate them may be gradually lessened and ultimately annihilated. Whatever, however, be the will of Almighty Providence respecting the future Government of India, it is our duty, so long as the charge be confided to our hands, to execute the trust to the best of our ability for the good of the people. We are here not simply to collect revenues, maintain armies and borrow money to supply the deficiency. We are doubtless here for higher purposes; one of which is to pour the enlightened knowledge and civilization, the arts and science of Europe over the land and thereby improve the condition of the people." These noble sentiments ought to find an echo in the heart of every true Liberal. The supporters of the retrograde movement for raising the Punjab University College to the status of a full University urge that they are not opposed to the diffusion of the enlightened knowledge and sciences of Europe: all that they seek is that the medium of instruction shall be the mother-tongue of the student. But these amiable authorities forget that the attainment of this object is utterly impossible. Strennuous efforts were made by Sir William Muir to do for the North-Western Provinces what Dr. Leitner is now striving to do for the Punjab; but those efforts, as might have been anticipated, ended in a complete failure. Sir William, who is himself a distinguished Oriental scholar, tried to promote the diffusion of higher education through the medium of the vernacular. The difficulty in the way of carrying out his project was the absence of suitable text-books,—a difficulty which proved insurmountable. Sir William Muir, after doing everything possible to give effect to his pet schemes was obliged to record his firm conviction that there was no hope of obtaining suitable text-books in the vernacular The simple truth is that *European science can not be taught, according to European modes of thought, through the medium of the vernacular languages of the country.* It is a great pity that Lord Ripon has, without careful and mature consideration, agreed with the opinion of the Senate of the Punjab University College, that it is through the medium of the vernacular languages of this country that European science and literature could most easily be advanced and cultivated. Nothing could be a greater mistake than this. The enthusiasts who have been striving to secure the elevation of the Punjab University College to the rank of a full University lay much stress upon the circumstance that the Native chiefs and nobles of the Punjab have *spontaneously* raised an endowment of Rs. 3,50,000 for their national education. But we do not hesitate to say that if the high dignitaries of the Punjab had not looked on the University College with favour, not a farthing would have been contributed by the chiefs and the nobles for this purpose. They open their purse-strings at the smile of the "powers that be." They feel themselves under a sort of moral obligation to contribute to any project which basks under the sun-shine of official patronage. The less, therefore, is said of the spontaneous contributions of the Punjab Chiefs and nobles to the funds of the University College the better. If the Punjab officialdom is determined to have a full-blown University, let it have *a purely Oriental University.* Let degrees and distinctions be given at Lahore only for Oriental languages and studies, and we shall have no objection to it. Such a course would encourage all pure Oriental learning without detriment to high English education.

IMPROVEMENTS IN COURT OF WARDS' ESTATES.

MR. E. C. BUCK has taken his revenge on Sir Ashley Eden. One of the first official acts of the new Secretary in the resuscitated Revenue and Agricultural Department has been to issue a circular on the subject of conduct of experiments and the introduction of improvements in estates under the management of the Court of Wards. The system of making agricultural experiments under the garb of introducing improvements in Court of Wards' estates was first adopted in Bengal by Sir George Campbell and in the North-Western Provinces by Sir John Strachey. Sir John dealt with this question in his famous minute of 28th November 1874, constituting the North-West Department of Agriculture and Commerce. He wrote:—"Estates under the Court of Wards afford another means of promoting agricultural improvements. No one can be less inclined than I am to try doubtful experiments at other people's expense; but I believe that under proper superintendence much might be done on these estates, through the agency of the cultivators themselves They might often be induced to try new seeds, new plants, or new methods of cultivation. The rapid increase of potato, opium and indigo cultivation in these provinces sufficiently proves that no real bar exists to the adoption of novelties by the agricultural classes when once they are convinced that they are remunerative. The successful introduction of an improvement on one or two Court of Wards' estates would have a much better chance of leavening the agriculture of the surrounding country, than any number of equally successful experiments on the model farms." Sir John Strachey, in short, laid down that the Court of Wards' estates "should be our model farms, and the higher cultivation, the greater appearance of comfort, the trim villages and the skilful utilization of natural advantages should testify to the people what the effects of an enlightened management are." Mr. Buck, in the recent Resolution of the Government of India, does not cite the authority of Sir John Strachey. He quotes the following passage from Part II, of the Report of the Famine Commission:—"The estates of minors and other legally incompetent persons, which are under the management of the Court of Wards, have been spoken of as affording a proper field for the introduction of agricultural improvements into the country. The principle which should govern the conduct of Government in respect to these estates should be, in our opinion, that the managers it appoints should not make use of their position to carry on merely experimental farming, but should act as an enlightened but prudent landowner would act in respect to his own country, *by utilizing the results of science, and adopting any well-tested and clearly demonstrated improvement*, either by works for adding to the permanent value of the estate, or by the adoption of improved methods of farming. When, therefore, any improvement in the method of cultivating or preparing any staple crop, or of rearing cattle or in the construction of implements, *has been proved successful*, it might without objection be introduced to the people and popularized by means of its adoption on such estates, but it would obviously be unjustifiable to make their owners responsible for the cost and risk of carrying out experiments which the Government would not undertake itself."

It will be seen that there is not much difference between the views of Sir John Strachey and those of the Famine Commission on the subject of the introduction of improvements in estates under the management of the Court of Wards. Indeed, it would have been astonishing had the case been otherwise; for, the main business of the Civilian members of the Commission, with one honorable exception, was to justify the administrative measures of Sir John Strachey, so far as they could possibly do so. The Government of India express their entire concurrence in the principles laid down by the Famine Commission in the extract quoted above. The Resolution under notice says:—"The Governor-General in Council views with disfavour the policy of hoarding up in investments, securities, or other close investments, profits which are made on Court of Wards' estates under the careful management of Government officials, in any case, where subject to the conditions referred to, these can be more usefully applied to the improvement and development of the agricultural resources." Now, the real point is to make sure that the profits are *usefully applied*. The Government has no doubt laid down the rule "that no experiments will be attempted the success of which may not be reasonably expected, and that no schemes involving large expenditure will be undertaken the results of which are uncertain." But what guarantee is there, we would ask, that this rule will be strictly observed in practice? Has not past experience shown that rules of this kind are more honored in the breach than in the observance thereof? District officers in this country are practically irresponsible in matters of this kind. Opinions as to the degree in which agricultural improvements should be introduced and as to the nature of the improvements to be adopted will vary with the idiosyncracies of District officers and the interest they take in the subject. It must be remembered that proposals for improvement will not come from the people themselves. No sensible person will deny that in order to effect real improvement in any matter it is necessary for Government to carry the people with them. It is all very well to say that the Natives of India are so conservative, so apathetic and so ignorant of what will further their own interests that they would not adopt any novelties or improvements unless they were made to do so. But we have Sir John Strachey's own testimony that the agricultural classes in this country are ready to adopt any novelties when once they are convinced that they are remunerative. The rapid extension of the sugarcane cultivation and the remarkable success of the Beheea Sugar Mill clearly establish our position. In order to introduce agricultural improvements into the country, it is not necessary to undertake costly operations in Court of Wards' estates at the expense of the wards. We did not require a model farm or an Agricultural Department to teach the people the advantages of potato, opium, indigo or sugarcane cultivation. The district officers who will be employed to teach the cultivators on the Court of Wards' estates agriculture, have more to learn from the people of this country than the people from them.

The Famine Commissioners lay down the principle that the managers of Court of Wards' estates should act as an enlightened but prudent land-owner would act in respect to his own property. But the Commissioners apparently forget that when a man spends other people's money without a strict sense of responsibility, he has no motive to be prudent. He knows that if his schemes should fail, he will not have to bear the consequences of failure. The plain truth is, that irresponsible Government officials, speaking generally, cannot be reasonably expected to act prudently in spending the money of minors. The Local Governments, from the very necessity of the case, must leave a great deal in the hands of the district officers and the managers of Wards' estates. An overzealous and ambitious district officer or manager with a head full of all sorts of projects of so-called improvement will find no difficulty in carrying many of them out, without much caring what the result is likely to be. The Famine Commission say that when any improvement on the method of cultivating or preparing any staple crop or of rearing cattle or in the construction of implements has been proved successful, such improvement should be adopted on Court of Wards' estates. Well, who is to judge whether any so-called improvement is really an improvement? For instance, Mr. Buck naturally believes that his adopted plough is a great improvement on the ordinary country plough, and that the new implement has been proved to be successful; but the people do not think so. Now, what is to be done in such a case? Will Mr. Buck's plough be forced on cultivators in Court of Wards' estates? Who is to be the judge of success—Government officials or the people whose interests are concerned? Mr. Buck, when head of the North-West Department of Agriculture and Commerce, admitted that it would be justly held to be a waste of national funds if in each province a number of inexperienced officials like himself and his assistants were turned loose at the public expense to devise a system of agricultural reform? Would it, we ask, be consistent with the conscientious performance of the duties of a trustee to spend minors' money on so-called improvements? Though Government may exercise great care in this matter, still many mistakes will occur, and the money of its wards will be wasted in the name of improvement.

THE PURNEA CASE.

THE Purnea case was verily a tempest in a teapot. It arose in this way. Mr. Tayler, manager of the estate of Raja Lilanund Singh, of Chumpanagore, charged his late Dewan, Bhoobun Chunder Roy, with having criminally intimidated the Raja by saying, "I am going away, but if any *fasad* happens, who will settle it?" The Deputy Magistrate, who tried the case, thus sets forth the facts: On the 24th June 1881 the Raja, apparently in the absence of the Dewan, made up his mind to dismiss him for certain misconduct of which he (the Raja) himself was aware, and of what further he heard from the witness Hari Mohun Thakoor, who had just come from Bhagulpore, apparently for that purpose, and a perwana of the Dewan's dismissal was ordered to be written at once. On the 26th June 1881, when the Dewan was seated near the Raja, Baboo Hari Mohun called there, and in his presence the order of dismissal was virtually communicated to the Dewan, and Hari Mohun requested the Raja that the perwanah respecting the Dewan's dismissal may be made over to him (Hari Mohun), in order that he may deliver it to the manager, Mr. Taylor, at Bhagulpore. Whereupon a quarrel took place between Hari Mohun and the Dewan, in which the former accused the latter of bribery and corruption in the presence of the Raja. During the interval Hari Mohun asked the Raja to direct the Dewan, as well as other people present then and there, to go away, saying that he had something private to speak to him (the Raja.) The Dewan did not act up to this order, which the Raja instantly passed, but being insisted upon by the Raja to leave the place, he uttered the words of the so-called threat in an angry mood and loud tone, and went away. The Court in summing up the evidence says:

The only point at issue in this case is whether or not the words of the so-called threat constitute the offence of criminal intimidation, and whether or not they were uttered or used by the accused with intent to cause alarm to the Raja? It will be seen that each of the four witnesses gave a somewhat different version of the words used in the so-called threat, and the petition of complainant differs materially on this point, but the significant word "augur" (or if) has been invariably used by all the first three witnesses. There is, however, an omission of the word 5 or 6 days, and an addition of a few words in Hari Mohun's statement to the effect that if any *fasat* crops up the Raja himself will not be able to ward it off, and then if it were referred to him (accused), he himself will not be able to avert it. The statements of the 4th witness, Iswar Doyal with the omission purposely made of the word "augur," or if, and those contained in the petition of complainant, are apparently untrue. It will also be seen that the accused himself admits the words of the so-called threat to a certain extent, however indirectly. The Court has very carefully considered these words, and the arguments of the learned counsels on both sides, as well as the concomitant circumstances of the case, and is fully convinced that the words of the so-called threat are vague and indefinite, the more so with the word "*augur*," or if, which they were used, and that they do not seem to it (Court) to imply a threat of injury to person, property or reputation. It should be borne in mind that the words were uttered by the accused while under provocation caused to him by Hari Mohun Thakoor accusing him of bribery and corruption in the presence of the Raja, and although if it were admitted, that he may have been in an angry mood or may have spoken in a loud tone when uttering the words of the so-called threat, it is beyond doubt that he had had no intention to threaten the Raja, his mood and manner of speaking on the occasion being entirely due to provocation caused to him by Hari Mohun owing to the previous quarrel just above alluded to. The Raja is admittedly old, infirm and naturally timid, and the words of the so called threat may have probably created a certain degree of anxiety in his mind, but any such alarm affecting the mind is not intended to be taken into account to constitute an offence of criminal intimidation as defined in Section 503 of the Indian Penal Code. Under these circumstances, as the words of the so-called *dhumki* do not seem to imply a threat of injury to person, property or reputation and they were not uttered or used by the accused with intent to cause alarm to the Raja within the meaning of law, the prosecution must fail, and the Court accordingly directs that the case be dismissed and the accused discharged, under section 215 of the Criminal Procedure Code.

It was of course a frivolous charge, and we are not surprised that it has been summarily dismiss-

ed. But there is something behind the case, which has not come to light. In the first place the order for the prosecution was passed by Mr. Weekes, the Magistrate, on *suspicion*. It was worded as follows :

Under section 142, I consider that the offence suspected to have been committed should be enquired into. Warrant to issue for the arrest of Bhoobun Chunder Roy.

A. WEEKES,
19th July 1881. Magistrate.

The above order does not specify any offence, but the vernacular warrant drawn up by the amla, in obedience to the above, specified an offence under section 506 of the Penal Code (criminal intimidation.) On the appearance of the accused, the case was made over by Mr. Weekes, under a written order dated the 26th July, to Babu Krishnaprosad Ghose, Deputy Magistrate of the first class, with a direction that he would proceed to Champanagore to examine the Raja (complainant) in the presence of the accused. Although the case was made over to the Deputy Magistrate on the 26th July, on the 29th of that month the following order was passed by Mr. Weekes himself :—

"Case adjourned to 1st August 1881, when the court examines Raja Lilanand Sing Bahadur.

A. WEEKES.
27th July 1881.

This is one phase of the case. The order for the prosecution is issued on mere suspicion ; the case is made over to the Deputy Magistrate, but the Magistrate continues to pull the strings.

Another phase is thus suggested by the *Statesman*. Our contemporary says : "We have heard another explanation, and though it rests entirely on suspicion, yet, considering the way in which Mr. Weekes proceeded on suspicion, he can hardly wonder if some suspicion fall on himself. It is suspected that he adopted the singularly irregular course he pursued, because he knew that Mr. Tayler was being backed by Mr. Barlow, if, indeed, he was not directly influenced by the Commissioner. We are not aware of any evidence to prove this, and the suspicion may be groundless. But there must be some explanation of the Magistrate's conduct. If any one can advance an intelligible one, we shall be glad to give Mr. Weekes the benefit of it. But until some rational explanation is put forward, the known fact that Mr. Barlow lent himself to a scheme to get the dewan dismissed in order that Mr. Tayler might remain in office, lends some colour to the suspicion that Mr. Weekes was somehow in league with, or influenced by, the Commissioner in prosecuting Bhoobun Chunder with such unlawful zeal." We should be sorry to believe this, but it would appear from the evidence that the Commissioner did take some interest in this case. Babu Hari Mohun Thakur deposed :

"I told the Raja when I met him at Champanagore that the Commissioner of Bhagulpore, Mr. Barlow, was displeased with defendant Bhoobun Chunder, I told the Raja that the Commissioner told him that all the misdeeds of the Dewan Bhoobun Chunder had been probably known to the Raja by this time, and that if the Raja asks you about Bhoobun Chunder, you should tell all what you know about him (defendant.)"

Mr. Tayler deposed :

"I saw Mr. Barlow on the 28th of June last. I believe that was the next time I saw him. On that occasion Hari Babu accompanied me to the Commissioner. Hari Babu told Mr. Barlow in my presence that he (Hari Babu), had succeeded in the object of his visit, that is, in getting the Rajah to dismiss the Dewan. The witness says that the last answer is a mistake, inasmuch as Hari Babu had previously told me at the Cutchery that the Dewan had been dismissed, and we then went to see the Commissioner, and Hari Babu did not therefore mention this to Mr. Barlow in my presence, that is, that he had accomplished the object of his visit.

Again :

I was appointed manager of the Rajah's estate in April, 1878 for a term of five years on salary of Rs. 500, with an annual increment of Rs. 100. I heard in November 1878 a rumour that I was dismissed by the Rajah, and Mr. Davis was to be appointed in my place ; but that order, if it was so passed, never reached me. At that time Bhoobunchunder was under dismissal, as deposed by me in examination-in-chief. At that time the Kumar was trying to get me dismissed, and brought certain charges against me, and I then heard a rumour that he had induced the Rajah to sign my dismissal. The Dewan, Bhoobunchunder, was dismissed at the request of the Kumar, and was out of employ for about two months. When the charges were brought against me, it was ascertained that the Rajah was under the influence and under the hands of Munshi Nobi Bux and other Mahomedan servants of the Kumar, and to counteract their influence over the Rajah, it was thought advisable by myself and the Commissioner to re-engage Bhoobunchunder as Dewan (the above narrative was voluntured by Mr. Tayler, the Barrister asking him to explain). I thought at that time, if Bhoobunchunder was not re-appointed the *management* could not be allowed to exist. By the word 'management" I mean my appointment as manager. (Witness adds). In my *sanad* from the Rajah it is stated that the management could not cease without the joint consent of the Rajah and Kumar. *Question.*—Did you not then think that Bhoobun Chunder's reinstatement would avert your talked off dismissal ? *Answer.*—Yes, I did, I suggested to Mr. Barlow that Bhoobunchunder should be re-appointed, and he sanctioned it. *Question.*—Did you speak to Bhoobunchunder about his trying to avert your rumoured dismissal ? *Answer.*—I may have done so. *Question.*—Did you not just now say "I did not give any such instruction to Bhoobunchunder because the Commissioner would not have sanctioned my dismissal ? Yes, I did (Witness adds), because the management was created to prevent the estate from incurring further debts. Rajah Lelanund Singh is a timid man, I should say so from my own knowledge. He is very much afraid of incurring the displeasure of Mr. Barlow, the Commissioner in any matter. *Question.*—Would he not dismiss or appoint any one to please Mr. Barlow. *Answer.*—I don't think so unless there was good cause shown. *Question.*—What do you mean by the expression "Commissioner would not have *sanctioned* your dismissal" ? *Answer.*—I mean that the Rajah would not have dismissed me at that time even should he have signed my dismissal, had it been represented to him that I was being dismissed without fault, which, I am sure, the Commissioner would have done. *Question.*—Had the Commissioner any sort of legal or official authority over the Rajah ? *Answer.*—No (Witness adds) he only takes a great interest in the welfare of the estate.

"After my return to Champanagore in June last, and before the present complaint was lodged, the Kumar wrote to me and asked me to render an account (*jama kharuch*) I did not reply to the letters. Brajendra Babu is a smart man, and he is my assistant. Beyond this I had no favouritism for him. The Kumar wrote to the Raja to say that he had dismissed Brajendra. I was not annoyed because the Kumar asked me to render an account, because I had sent him my accounts regularly, and I hold receipts from him. During the pendency of this case the idea never struck me that on the fate of this case might depend my appointment. *Question.*—Is it the fact that since the Raja was examined in this case you have got a document from him, whereby he has increased your salary and extended the term of your office ? *Answer.*—Yes. When the Kumar's power (*Ejajutnama*) was withdrawn by the Raja, the Raja himself told me that my former *sanad* was useless, inasmuch as it was stated in the *sanad* that I had everything to do through the Kumar, and now that the Kumar's power was withdrawn it was necessary to give me a new *power*, which he did, retaining my services from about 18 months, still remaining upon my former salary, and three years in excess upon an increased salary of Rs. 100 annually."

We believe Mr. Tayler was appointed by the Raja on the recommendation of the Commissioner.

We will not comment on the evidence we have quoted above. Need we say that Mr. Barlow owes it to himself and to the Government to give his own version of the case for the satisfaction of the public. We invite Lord Ripon's attention to these revelations of official life in the Mofussil.

THE ROYAL INDIAN ENGINEERING COLLEGE.

THE Marquis of Hartington's speech at the last distribution of prizes to the students of the Royal Indian Engineering College at Cooper's Hill and the recent conversation on the management of the institution in the House of Lords, have naturally drawn public attention to that useless and costly burden upon our finances. Lord Hartington, of course, spoke of the usefulness of the College to India, and referred to the altered scheme of management adopted under its new President, Sir Alexander Taylor. The institution, said His Lordship, was about to enter into a wider sphere of action and train engineers for the United Kingdom, the Colonies, and all the dependencies of England. When the College was founded ten years ago, it was intended for the sole use of the Indian Government, and all its cost was, accordingly, thrown upon the revenues of India. But now it has been decided to open the institution to all comers—to "all persons desirous of following the course of study persued there." The changes at Cooper's Hill, Lord Hartington explained, arose from the Public Works Department, which was the result of too numerous admissions without any regard to the requirements of the public service, and from the reduction of the expenditure on extraordinary public works. Circumstances having made it necessary to reduce the Indian appointments to a number which would be entirely insufficient to warrant the further maintenance of the College at an enormous cost, the India Office was called upon to consider the advisability of closing the institution ; and the necessity for total abolition of the College was avoided by throwing it open to all persons desirous of following the course of study pursued there.

The wisest course, to our thinking, would have been to have closed the institution altogether. We have from the very beginning regarded the establishment of the Cooper's Hill College as a mistake. As the Duke of Argyll was the Secretary of State for India when the College was founded His Grace, in his place in the House of Lords, recently made an attempt to vindicate his action in regard to it. The Duke said :— "If a great school of engineering had existed in India capable of supplying a sufficient number of competent men to execute economically the public works, undertaken in India, it would have been folly on the part of the Government to start an institution like the Cooper's Hill College. But the Indian Government had lost annually enormous sums of money by the carelessness and incompetence of many of the Civil Engineers in India, and when holding the office of Secretary of State for India, he found that it was hardly possible to obtain in the open market a sufficient number of competent men to conduct the public works of India on a scale such as that on which they were then being undertaken." His Grace accordingly established the College. The real fact is, that the Strachey Brothers were the authors of the scheme for establishing an engineering college in England for the training of Indian engineers. They persuaded Lord Mayo, whom they always led by the nose to determine upon borrowing ninety millions sterling in order to carry out a gigantic system of irrigation works for the whole of British India, and, with a view to secure the Government from loss, to impose a compulsory cess on all irrigable land whether it was irrigated or not. The Duke of Argyll had the good sense to veto the famous Northern India Canal Act of 1869, which provided for the levy of compulsory water-rates. His Grace could not command the courage to put his foot upon the project for founding a College in England for the training of Indian engineers. The Duke admits that if a great school of Indian engineering had existed in India, capable of supplying sufficient number of competent engineers, it would have been folly on the part of the Government to start an institution like Cooper's Hill College. But if such a school did not exist in India, it could have been easily established here. In order to pave the way for the erection of the College in England for the training of Indian engineers, Colonel (now Major-General) Richard Strachey, when acting Secretary to the Government of India in the Public Works Department, had abolished the Calcutta Civil Engineering College as a special institution and converted it into a branch of the Presidency College. The Calcutta College, under the able management of men like Colonel Williams and Colonel Chesney, had produced some excellent men, who would do credit to any engineering school in the world. But when the College was made a branch of the Presidency College and placed under the superintendence of a layman, it naturally lost much of its usefulness. If the Calcutta College had been re-established on a larger scale than before, and if the Engineering Colleges at Roorkee, Poona and Madras had been expanded, India would have been rendered capable of supplying a sufficient number of competent engineers for her requirements. But in that case a large number of natives would have obtained admissions into the higher ranks of the Public Works Department, and men of the Strachey type could not be expected to stand that. The brilliant idea of starting an institution in England for the training of Indian Engineers was, therefore, conceived, and the Duke of Argyll was weak enough to allow the project to be carried out. The immediate result of the foundation of the Cooper's Hill College was to injure seriously the prospects of the students of the Indian Engineering Colleges and to aggravate the block in the Public Works Department. The rate of promotion in that Department had already been slow, and the annual importation irrespective of the requirements of the service, of fifty Engineers into India from Cooper's Hill College made it slower still. The Engineers began to clamour loudly for promotion, and as advancement did not fall to their lot with the rapidity desired by them, they agitated for the redress of their grievances. The agitation as it might have been expected was successful. Sir Andrew Clarke, the

first, and we hope, the last, Public Works member of the Executive Council, framed a costly retirement scheme for Engineers, and the poor Indian tax-payer had to find the money for carrying it out.

Both the Duke of Argyll and the Marquis of Salisbury spoke in the highest terms of the education given at the Cooper's Hill College. As laymen we are of course not qualified to form a correct judgment on the subject. But the *Engineer*, a professional journal of very great authority, says that after full enquiry made in India the replies received are unanimous in stating that "Cooper's Hill turns out educated gentlemen, trained mathematicians, good linguists, admirable draughtsmen; but does not turn out Engineers in the full sense of the term." But let that pass. The question in which the Indian tax-payer is vitally interested is, whether the cost of the Cooper's Hill College, under the new organization, should be borne by him. We have said above that the necessity for the total abolition of the College has been avoided by throwing it open to all persons desirous of following the course of study pursued there. The College, though the child of the Indian Government and though originally founded for its sole use, has now been converted into an institution for scientific engineering education generally, and it will benefit all Englishmen in search of such education. Because a certain number of Indian appointments has been offered to students who have completed the course at Cooper's Hill, that can be no justification for throwing the expenses of the institution upon the Indian revenues. The East India Home Accounts for 1879-80. some of the principal items of which we examined in a recent issue, show that the cost of the Royal Indian Civil Engineering College for that year was upwards of three lakhs of rupees. Lord Hartington may be right in expecting good results from the new organization and extension of the college; but the question is, why should India be required to support an institution which will now train engineers for the United Kingdom, the Colonies and all the dependencies of England. Common fairness demands that the cost of the Coopers's Hill College on its new footing should not be thrown upon the poor, dumb and unrepresented millions of India.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

ON THURSDAY last His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor and suite left for Darjeeling. Quite a crowd of notabilities of the town collected on the Sealdah platform of the Eastern Bengal Railway to bid his Honor good-bye.

AFTER lingering for several weeks Mr. Garfield, President of the United States, has succumbed to the fatal wounds inflicted upon him by the foul hands of an assassin. Whatever aid medical science and skill could render was placed at his command, but nothing could resist the fatal consequences that had set in. Civilization shrieked when the fatal blow was struck. Here was the head of a republican Government, which recognizes the *vox populi* as the *vox dei*. A man of rare intellectual gifts, and thorough honesty of purpose, simple as a child, and respected and loved by all who knew him, true to the Constitution, and devoted to his work, he was supposed to be the last person against whom personal bickering could exist. But the foul hand of an assassin cares not for virtue, honesty, or character. The whole American nation is overwhelmed with grief at this national calamity, and the whole civilized world shares the sorrow which has seized it.

WE ARE exceedingly grieved to observe that the ill-feeling between the Hindus and Mahomedans of Multan has received a fresh outburst, and it was so furious that the military had to be called out. The *Englishman* publishes the following telegram on the subject:

Simla Sept. 21st—A rather serious riot occurred at Multan on Monday between the Hindus and Mussulmans. So far as can be learnt the former appear to have been the aggressors. No loss of life is reported. Two companies of the Connaught Rangers, were called out to restore order. The ill-feeling between the Hindus and Mussulmans of Multan has its origin in the great beef question, in which the original difficulty has been exacerbated by disputes regarding the two sacred edifices in the fort.

Things are drifting to a bad position in Multan. The authorities ought to be up and doing. We are sure that if they had acted with common prudence, all this would not have occurred.

AS THEOSOPHY and spiritualism seem to be attracting the attention of our English-educated countrymen, Dr. Rajendralala Mitra has done well by publishing an English translation of the Yóga Aphorisms of Patanjali with the commentary of Bhoja Raja We have neither time nor space this week to review the work, which is one of rare value, and which all who appreciate the wisdom of the ancient Hindus, should study. No Indian scholar is better fitted for the task of the translation than Dr. Rajendralala Mitra, and the labour and care he has brought to bear upon it cannot be too highly commanded. He has not been a slavish translator, though he has been closely literal; he has compared his own renderings with those of others, who have preceded him, and has given his reasons for adopting his own rendering. We will take a future opportunity to review the book.

ALTHOUGH His Excellency the Viceroy has given his assent to the Calcutta Municipal Bill, it is couched in terms, which cannot but be eminently satisfactory to those, who had opposed it. The letter of the Viceroy is a noble vindication of the elective system of municipal government in general, and of the Calcutta Corporation in particular. We hope this letter will be made public for general information. Its publication will immensely raise in public estimation Lord Ripon's enlightened statesmanship.

AFTER A long and exciting trial the Bretton case was concluded on Thursday last. In summing up the learned Judge delivered a long, elaborate, and exhaustive charge to the Jury, who unanimously pronounced a verdict of guilty, that is to say, Mr. E. C. Ball on the first charge; Mr. A. M. Bretton and Chas. de Bretton guilty on the second; Mr. C de Bretton guilty on the third; Mr. A. M. Bretton and E. C. Ball guilty on the fourth; Mr. Chas. de Bretton guilty on the fifth, and Mr. A. M. Bretton and E. C. Ball guilty on the sixth. All the prisoners were sentenced to one year's rigorous imprisonment each. Mr. Jackson and Mr. Apcar applied for a copy of the notes of the learned Judge as they intended to take further proceedings in the matter. Notwithstanding the many "scenes" enacted during the trial, we must say that both the Bench and the Bar have shewn marked ability in the conduct of the trial.

WE HEARTILY welcome back Mr. Ashanuddin Ahmad, son of the late Newab Amir Ali, who had gone to England about four years ago to study for the bar. He entered Balliol College, Oxford, and has been duly called to the bar. He seems to be a young man of good culture and great promise. We are glad to learn that Sir Ashley Eden has nominated him to the Civil Service. He will be an acquisition to the service.

TAKING occasion of the introduction of the Inland Emigration Bill Major Baring enunciated the principles on which the new policy for the construction of public works by private enterprise is based. He compared the old and new systems. In our issue of the 5th instant we have made the comparison, and it is not therefore necessary for us to go over the same ground again. We had pointed out that the contract with the Bengal Central Railway Company had been closed without giving the Indian capitalists an opportunity to subscribe. On this point Major Baring frankly said: "We prefer, if possible, to get local capital; but if local capital asks for too heavy terms, and is not available in sufficient quantity, we must turn our attention elsewhere. It may, indeed, be said in respect to the Kulna and Jessore line that local capitalist never had a chance of subscribing. That is a perfectly fair criticism. It does not, however, at all follow that, because we adopted a certain procedure in one case, we should adopt the same procedure in all future cases. What we shall endeavour to do in the event of any further extension of Central Bengal Railway Company's operations, or of any other company being started, is to stipulate that local subscription lists shall be opened simultaneously with those in London. Thus, local capital will have every opportunity of subscribing. I cannot hope that local capital will be found in sufficiently large amounts to meet the wants of the country, but I hope and believe that it may be possible to combine European and local capital in any future undertakings." We entirely agree. Major Baring is carrying out the new policy with great caution, tact, and judgment. We hope the impetus he has given to private enterprise in India will not abate.

MUNICIPAL GRIEVANCES AGAIN! Not a week passes away without our receiving a budget of Municipal grievances. We have before us a copy of a memorial to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor signed by more than eight hundred inhabitants of the Suburbs and headed by the Paikpara Raj Family and Dr. Rajendralala Mitra. The Memorialists complain of the levy of the night-soil cess on all real property in the suburbs, occupied or unoccupied. They justly contend that the night-soil cess is simply a return for service rendered, and that where there was no service, there should be no cess. But the Suburban Municipality has imposed the cess "on all kinds of property, including vacant houses, shops having no privies, unoccupied gardens, waste lands, and tanks, for which no service is done, nor is possible, and realised it from owners and others who were not legally liable to it." At a meeting of the Suburban Municipality held at the beginning of this month a resolution was adopted to exclude tanks, waste lands, and vacant houses, but the other classes of property are retained under the head of taxable holdings. Then the memorialists say that the scale of fees adopted is arbitrary and highly oppressive on the poorer class of the rate-payers. And lastly the memorialists state that the surplus proceeds of the Cess have been applied to the general purposes of the Municipality contrary to the provisions of the law. At the close of 1879-80 the proceeds of the House-service fee amounted to Rs. 1,28,800 and the charges to Rs. 85,359, leaving a surplus of Rs. 43,521. This sum under the law should have been devoted, either, to the erection of new latrines, or to the reduction of the rate for the next year, to the relief of those who are heavily taxed. This was, however, not done, and the surplus was carried to the benefit of the general funds of the Municipality. In the Budget of the Municipality for the current year the probable surplus of the House-service Fund has been carried to cover the deficit in the Budget of the General Fund. This is both illegal and unjustifiable. We hope the Lieutenant-Governor will enquire into the matter, and repress with a strong hand the abuses, which have been thus brought to his notice.

ANOTHER Budget of municipal grievances. It comes from Barahanagar:

It is a bad practice to appoint the same persons as Municipal Commissioners over and over. This makes the Commissioners think that they are life-members of the Municipality and have acquired a prescriptive right to govern. The infusion of new blood is highly necessary. Again, sometimes improvements are undertaken to suit the views of particular members. Take for instance the Jugipara Lane. It is a small lane, is not of any importance to the public, but one of the members of the Committee has his castor oil manufactory in the lane, and that is a sufficient argument in favour of its being taken in hand in preference to other important roads. Further, municipal money is deposited with individual members of the Municipality. Is not this very irregular? There is another irregularity, namely, the omission to call for tenders for works and making them over to individual Commissioners for execution. This practice is illegal and irregular and deserves to be strongly condemned. Individual Commissioners ought not to be entrusted with contracts for repairs and construction.

The points raised by our correspondent are very important, and we generally agree with him. We hope both Mr. Lyall and Mr. Peacock will look into these matters.

IT IS said that the office of Minister of Public Works will be revived. So the Liberal Ministry instead of curtailing expenditure is going to increase it. It has revived the Agricultural Department and will revive the Minister of Public Works. It seems to be bent upon undoing what had been done by the past *regime*, and that to the direct detriment of India. When the appointment of Minister of Public Works was first proposed Lord Northbrook was opposed to it, and the wisdom of his Lordship's opinion was vindicated when the office was abolished two years ago. But rumour has it that this office is to be revived. It is said that the new Public Works policy requires the revival of the appointment. We hold that the less the direct responsibility of the Government for the execution of public works, the less necessity for a separate Minister of Public Works. We think the Public Works Secretary is strong enough for the work.

WE PUBLISH below the correspondence between the British Indian Association and the Government of Bengal regarding the Durga Puja holidays. We have nothing to add to what the Association have already said on the subject. If the facts stated by the Association be correct, it seems that there has been a compact as it were between the Comptroller General and the Bank of Bengal to nullify Lord Lytton's Resolution on the subject of the holidays. It was Mr. Westland, who first suggested that the Council Bills should be paid at the Bank of Bengal during the holidays, and that the Currency Office should be kept open to a limited extent during the vacation. The Directors of the Bank of Bengal to meet the wishes of the Comptroller General have resolved to keep the Bank open. Thus there has been a mutual understanding. If the Bank had not been kept open, the Council Bills could not have been paid, while the Bank Directors have got a pretext to keep the Bank open, because the Government wishes to pay the Council Bills during the holidays. The Government of India in a Resolution of August 1880 had approved the arrangements recommended by the Comptroller General. The history of this Resolution is instructive. It was passed after Lord Lytton had left the country. Lord Ripon had newly arrived, and his Lordship could not be expected to know anything about the deep game, which was being played. Those who concocted this Resolution had of course their heart in the work, for it was they who had originally framed the anti-holiday Resolution, which we need hardly say would not have been cancelled but for the firmness of Lord Lytton. But when the cat was away, the mice began to play. It is observable that this nullifying Resolution was passed in the secret department, the public had no knowledge of it, and could not therefore protest against it. To put the public off the scent no action was taken under it last year. Now, it is said that the Comptroller General is simply acting under the orders of Government. Surely Lord Ripon would not have given his assent to the Resolution in question, if His Lordship had known its real scope and tendency. The following is the correspondence referred to above:

To

H. M. KISCH ESQ. C. S.
Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal,
Financial Department.

SIR,—The Committee of the British Indian Association regret much that they should be under the necessity of addressing Government again and so soon on the subject of the Durga Puja holidays, after it had been finally decided last year by Lord Lytton's Government on a careful reconsideration of the representations of the Hindu Community and of the views of the local Government represented by Sir Stuart Bayley and Sir Ashley Eden.

For some time past the attention of the Committee has been drawn to the movement made by the Directors of the Bank of Bengal to cut down the Durga Puja holidays. It was represented to them that although the Government had no longer a direct interest and therefore a direct voice in the management of the Bank, still it was to all intents and purposes a quasi-Government institution, inasmuch as the whole of the Treasury business of Government was done by it, and that that circumstance not a little contributed to the confidence, which the public reposed in it, that if any private establishment was loyally bound to carry out the orders of Government regarding the holidays, it was the Bank of Bengal, because it partook so much of a Government institution, that if the Bank of Bengal would obey the orders of Government the other banks would readily follow its example.

The movement of the Bank of Bengal has tended to make clear some important points connected with the holiday question. It has been strongly urged by the Bank of Bengal that it is the necessities of commerce, which have led it to propose a reduction of Durga Puja holidays, but it has been confidently asserted in public papers that mercantile opinion is by no means unanimous on the subject. It was given out that it was the Exchange Banks, which wanted to have the Bank of Bengal open, but the statement has not been contradicted that the Exchange Banks are equally divided in opinion, and that if the Bank of Bengal had not taken the lead, even those who have given their adhesion to it would not have perhaps agreed to change the long established course. As regards the merchants it has also been stated without contradiction that some of the leading firms are not disposed to deprive their native employes of their national holiday. Thus mercantile opinion is by no means unanimous on the subject.

But the Committee of the British Indian Association did not think it fit to address Government regarding the action proposed to be taken by the Bank of Bengal in this matter, because, however important its relation to the Government of India, it is strictly speaking a private establishment, and not therefore amenable to the control of Government in the management of its affairs. The agreement of the Bank with the Government of India for the conduct of its treasury business has certainly given the Government some power over the Bank. As regards the holidays the agreement provides as follows:

"That the said Bank shall not close its principal offices at Calcutta except on Sundays and on holidays authorized by the Governor General in Council."

Of course this engagement implies that the Bank will ordinarily observe the holidays authorized by the Government of India, but under a literal construction of the clause the Directors of the Bank are certainly not prohibited from opening the Bank on holidays authorized by Government. They have accordingly resolved to keep the Bank open on certain days. But if in taking this step the object has been to promote the convenience of the mercantile community it is observable that the arrangements notified by the Bank are not particularly calculated to further that object. In the first place the Bank will be closed for seven days out of twelve authorized holidays for Government offices, though the benefit of the seven days' vacation is neutralized by the circumstance of its not being a consecutive one. In the second place the Bank will be open for five days till only 1 P. M. when "it is intended to receive and pay money only in urgent cases." In the third place "bills falling due during the Pujahs will as usual be presented for payment on the last business day preceding the holidays."

It will be thus seen that by keeping its office open for five days of the Durga Puja holidays for the transaction of so-called "urgent business" the Bank will not materially contribute to the convenience of the mercantile community. It will, however, indirectly neutralize the orders of Government, deprive a number of its native employes of their national holiday, and unnecessarily place the feelings of the European and native communities in antagonism on a question on which the Hindu feeling is notoriously strong.

The Committee have made the foregoing observations not with a view to ask Government to interfere with the action taken by the Bank of Bengal, but to shew how this institution, which though no longer a Government institution still derives so much benefit by its relation with the Government, has indirectly set at naught the orders of Government regarding the Durga Puja holidays, and also how this action of the Bank seems to have influenced that of some of the money offices under the Government of India.

In yesterday's morning papers the Committee have observed the following notification issued by the Comptroller General: "During the Durga Puja holidays Council Bills will be paid at the Bank of Bengal on the days on which the Bank is open. The Currency Office will be open for business till 1 P. M. on Thursdays, September 29th and October 6th."

On seeing this notification a deputation of this Association consisting of the Hon'ble the Maharaja Jotendramohun Tagore Bahadur, C. S. I. and the Secretary waited upon His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor to represent the views of the Association on the subject, and under His Honor's instructions they called upon Mr. Westland, the Comptroller General, to enquire about the reasons and scope of his order. They stated that coupling his order with the Bank of Bengal's notification published in the morning papers of the day the Government Treasury at the Bank and the Currency Office will be kept open for certain days of the Durga Puja holidays. As regards the Government Treasury at the Bank Mr. Westland said that he would see arrangements made, which would obviate the necessity of keeping the Government Treasury at the Bank open. The Government has ordered that the Council Bills shall be paid at the Bank of Bengal, but as the payment of the Council Bills mean only a book transaction, the attendance of the Treasury clerks may be dispensed with.

With regard to the Currency Office Mr. Westland quoted the past orders of Government. He pointed out the following passages in the Government of India's Resolution No. 458 dated the 20th January 1880:—

"On the other hand His Excellency is disposed to think that he may have underrated the extent to which the complaints of the mercantile community may be obviated, or at least mitigated, by careful arrangements in the several public offices to meet their requirements.'

Again:—

"But His Excellency in Council relies upon the Government of Bengal to take precaution in respect to the public offices subordinate to it, to reduce to a minimum the inconvenience and loss which the mercantile community must, in consequence of this determination, continue to bear, and which he trusts that they will not object to bear out of consideration for the interest and wishes of their numerous Hindu fellow-citizens.

"The Governor-General in Council will enquire what arrangements to meet the convenience of the mercantile community are possible in the offices subordinate to the Government of India."

Mr. Westland said that with reference to the concluding paragraphs of the Resolution he as Comptroller General had been called upon to report what arrangements he would recommend on the subject, and that among other things he recommended that the Council Bills should be paid at the Bank of Bengal during the holidays, and that the Currency Office should be kept open to a limited extent. He showed a Resolution of the Government of India dated the 20th August 1880 approving the arrangements recommended by him. It is observable that the public have no knowledge of the last mentioned Resolution inasmuch as it had not been published, and have had therefore no opportunity of discussing it.

With regard to the payment of the Council Bills the Committee desire me to observe that in past years when the Bank was not kept open during the Durga Puja holidays no complaint was specifically heard on that score. Even last year, notwithstanding the Government Resolution of 20th August 1880, it was not thought necessary to provide for the payment of Council Bills during the holidays. This year the step has probably been taken, because the Bank of Bengal has notified that it would keep its office partially open. Apparently it is the original order of Government that the Council Bills shall be paid during the holidays, which has led to the action taken by the Bank of Bengal. The Committee could, however, hardly believe that the Government would have passed this order, if they had considered how it *would* affect the whole question of the Durga Puja holidays, which the public had thought the Government had finally set at rest.

The case of the Paper Currency Office is quite different. Mr. Westland said that that office would be kept open not so much for the sake of the mercantile community, who would be served by the Banks, as for that of the outside public coming to Calcutta during the holidays. If that is the reason why it is proposed to keep the Currency Office open, surely the interest involved is very limited and ought not to override the large and national considerations, which led the Government of India to cancel its first orders on the subject and to restore the Durga Puja holidays to *statu qua ante*. In restoring the holidays His Excellency the Governor-General in Council certainly expressed a wish to "reduce to a minimum the inconvenience and loss which the mercantile community must, in consequence of this determination, continue to bear, and which he trusts that they will not object to bear out of consideration for the interest and wishes of their numerous Hindu fellow-citizens." And the arrangements hitherto in force and also lately ordered by Government do and will minimize inconvenience to merchants. Thus, though the Banks may be closed, the exchange operations may be and are carried on, and as a matter of fact the Banks do take cheques from the purchasers of bills during the vacation. So remitting by telegram or otherwise is not suspended. With regard to transactions in produce there is a cessation for four days of Puja proper, but for the remaining few days of the holidays they go on as before, and little inconvenience is felt on account of the vacation or the closing of the Banks inasmuch as cash payment is not generally required: because, those who can command credit get it all the same, both when there are holidays and when there are no holidays. There is thus no necessity for keeping the Currency Office open for the benefit of the mercantile community. In special cases the Government has provided that bullion may be received by the Mint for coinage. Besides, to keep the Currency Office open till 1 P. M., for two days during the Durga Puja holidays would not appreciably serve the convenience of either the commercial or outside public. Mr. Westland said that a very small establishment will be required to attend at the Currency Office, only six out of seventy clerks, but the question being one of principle, it may be easily conceived, how objectionable it will be to make any part of the establishment attend during the holidays, for if six Hindu clerks could without objection be required to attend, for the same reasons the seventy clerks might be made to attend likewise, and if one Government office could be kept open, *cetæris paribus* the other Government offices might be kept open, and thus the dearly prized privilege of the Hindu employes of Government would be taken away.

When the Government of India in its Resolution of the 20th January 1880 said that the inconvenience to the merchants should be minimized, the Association had thought that if it be considered necessary to keep any Government Office open during the holidays, the business would be carried on by Christian assistants, and that the Hindu employes would be allowed their national holiday.

The Committee need hardly mention that in the other Provinces long vacation is not objected to. In Madras and the North Western Provinces seven or eight days' vacation is given for Christmas, but no complaint is heard because the Council Bills are not paid and the Currency Office is not kept open during the holidays.

The Committee will not repeat the arguments in favour of the maintenance of a somewhat long vacation on the occasion of the greatest national festival of the Hindus in Bengal, viz., Durga Puja. The discussion of the subject has been practically closed by the Resolution of the Government of India, dated the 20th January 1880. The history of that Resolution is a sufficient answer to a fresh agitation of the subject. The Government had originally reduced the holidays to four days, but having regard to certain facts and circumstances, which had not been specially considered by His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General in Council, His Excellency (Lord Lytton) in Council was pleased to cancel his original order and to restore the holidays in their integrity. To keep the Government Treasury at the Bank and the Currency Office open during the holidays would be manifestly a direct break of the Resolution of Government. The Resolution in question was arrived at on representations made on behalf of the Hindu Community, and on the expressed views of two Lieutenant-Governors, Sir Ashley Eden and Sir Stuart Bayley, and if the integrity of such a Resolution be impaired by breaking it in respect of one or two Government Offices this year,—and when this is done in the very first year, doubts may not unnaturally arise as to what may be done in years to come, after the first departure from the rule becomes an accomplished fact—it may be easily imagined what confidence the public can have in the certainty and continuity of the decisions of Government in matters in which the good faith of Government is of primary importance.

Under the circumstances the Committee solicit His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor to take this representation into consideration and to forward it for consideration and orders to the Government of India with such remarks as to His Honor may seem fit. They regret that they are obliged to approach His Honor so late, but the notification of the Comptroller General was published only yesterday. As less than a week remains for the commencement of the holidays; and considering the urgency and importance of the question the Committee would venture to solicit that His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor would be pleased to communicate with the Government of India by Telegraph.

B. I. Association Rooms,
108, British Indian Street,
The 21st September, 1880.

I have &.,
KRISTODAS PAL,
Secretary.

The following is the reply of the Bengal Government dated the 22nd instant, signed by Mr. Kisch:

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 105 dated the 21st instant on the subject of the Durga Puja holidays, and in reply to say that the offices under the Local Government except the Custom House will be closed as usual, but the Bank of Bengal and the Currency Office are not in any way under the control of the Local Government, and it is not within the power of the Lieutenant-Governor to interfere with the arrangements made for the conduct of business in those offices during the holidays. Sir Ashley Eden has, however, communicated with Mr.

West and the Comptroller General, who has assured him that he has taken measures to render the change of practice to be introduced this year as little irksome and inconvenient as possible to the Hindu Public. The Lieutenant-Governor is not aware of the circumstances under which the change has been decided upon, and all that he can do is to forward the representation of the British Indian Association to the Government of India.

A copy of your letter under acknowledgement will this day be forwarded to the Supreme Government, and the Lieutenant-Governor has already addressed a telegram to the Government of India communicating the substance of the representation of the British Indian Association.

The Lieutenant-Governor could not be expected to do more than what His Honor has done. His Honor does not evidently approve of the insidious attempt made to baulk the resolution of Lord Lytton's Government. We are constrained to say that it is nothing more nor less than an attempt to bring about a breach of faith with the native public. It does not matter how many clerks may be made to attend at the Currency Office—it is a question of principle and not of personal attendance. It remains to be seen what Lord Ripon and Major Baring will do in the matter.

WE READILY publish the following letter. Comment on it would be thrown away:

SIR,—It is with marked displeasure that I have noticed your habit of running into argument and contradiction with your betters at every turn. This has been shown very prominently in your leaders against the authorities of the Bank of Bengal. You know perfectly well that persons in authority are not bound to give all their reasons or the best of their reasons for any course of action they may think proper to adopt. In a country like India, where a handful of Englishmen has to govern a vast multitude of many races and nationalities, any thing like it would be preposterous. The real reason for all our actions has been well axiomised by Sir FitzJames Stephen in the remark that *that is absolute justice to the natives which is most advantageous to us.* Take that and rest satisfied. It is true that people in the present century cannot always put forth the principle in its simplicity on every occasion; humanity-mongers and Nigrophils will not allow them rest if they did so, and a little gilding of the pill is necessary. But gild or sweeten it in any way we like we want the pill to be administered and not the film of gold or the sugar we put with it. Professed reasons are but the jam that covers the Gregory's powder given to children, and we must always treat you as children. I am perfectly well aware that business is slack in October; that no material harm is done to commerce by the holidays; that commerce has thriven vastly notwithstanding the holidays; that even in the busiest of seasons in December a weeks' holiday for Christmas does no harm to commerce; but such arguments are the best for you and all that we care to give. For the nonce, however, I will tell you the real reason. It is the insult you have offered to your betters through some backstair influence or other by baulking them when they recommended the abolition of the holidays. Are English merchants to allow a parcel of natives to baulk them? Is it proper that the prestige of Englishmen in India should be injured by your fawning sycophancy to a person who can so far forget his nationality as to yield to the natives, against the wish of those who make the English nation what it is? You know we have the whiphand of you, and we can use it in any way we like, and the Government must in the long run yield to us, whether they wish it or no. We have already got the Comptroller General to lay the axe at the root of your Upas tree of holidays, and the rest will soon follow. It is an insult to Christianity to allow 12 days holiday to idolatry and bigotry and only 3 days to Christianity, and such an insult should not be allowed to last. Undo it we must, and your cry will be of no avail. The sooner therefore you accept the inevitable with a good grace and no check the better for you. You may go further and fare worse. Truth is unpalatable, but you court it by your check.

Yours &c.,
AN ENGLISH MERCHANT.

September 3, 1881.

JUST as we were going to press we received the following important telegram from the Press Commissioner:

Messenger to Chaman reports that Ameer defeated Ayub 22nd, two Kabuli regiments deserting Ayub decided action. Ayub and Sirdars fled to Herat abandoning guns and baggage, losses on both sides heavy. Ameer has not entered city but it was defenceless.

DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL.—ITS UNEQUALLED EFFICACY IN DISEASES OF THE THROAT.—Sir G. Duncan Gibb, Bart., M.D., LL D., Physician and Lecturer on Forensic Medicine, Westminster Hospital, author of various works on Diseases of the Throat and Larynx, writes:—"The experience of many years has abundantly proved the truth of every word said in favour of Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil by many of our first Physicians and Chemists, thus stamping him as a high authority and an able Chemist whose investigations have remained unquestioned. Its value, therefore, as a therapeutic agent in a number of diseases, chiefly of an exhaustive character, has been admitted by the world of medicine; but, in addition, I have found it a remedy of great power in the treatment of many Affections of the Throat and Larynx especially in Consumption of the latter, where it will sustain life when everything else fails. Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil has an agreeable flavour, is very palatable, and liked by children; hence its value in the third stage of Hooping-Cough, when it acts as a restorative and tonic." Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half-pints, pints, and quarts, with his stand and signature and the signature of his sole consignees on the capsule and the label under wrapper, by all chemists, druggists and stora-keepers. Sole Consignees, Ansar, Harford and Co., 77, Strand, London.

LONDON CORRESPONDENCE.

London, 2nd September, 1881.

Some weeks ago I ventured to express to you an opinion to the effect that the young men at Seebpore had made an error, and I further ventured to say the same in a private letter to an excellent lady deeply interested in India. She at once informed me that my opinion did not accord with that of the young Hindoos in London, and to this she added some very kind and good remarks as to the value of a kind and conciliating temper in a position like that of a ruler at Seebpore. I am silenced, and, though not quite convinced, I wish to say that I may be ignorant of some essential facts of the case. Let me simply say that I would not ask from a young Hindoo anything that I would not ask from a young Englishman, but that I believe discipline in youth to be at the root of all real efficiency in after life. What the young men are aiming at is a great—nay, even a grand—end for themselves and for India. All that I say, as their sincere friend is—do not let any little thing mar the great object.

You will see by the papers of this week that the Irish Land League is beginning a furious autumn campaign against the Government. What the end of it may be I hardly dare to surmise. The Land Act requires the kindliest possible interpretation on the part of the people, if it is to become what the Government intended, and what all good citizens hope it may become. The Queen has this year—I mean within the last few weeks reviewed in round numbers about 100,000 volunteers—a body of men of the very finest that Great Britain possesses, and, with the nation behind them, sufficient to set the world at defiance so far as invasion is concerned. Her Majesty has not been without the usual criticism, which however, while it pleases the critics does nobody else any harm. At Windsor the day was hot, and, the Queen was blamed for keeping the men in the sun, though she appeared at the moment she had appointed. At Edinburgh it was raining, and Her Majesty was nine minutes—Think! actually nine minutes behind her time!—and the poor fellows were kept in the drenching rain. Poor fellows indeed! Now, see what a person, who saw it all, says of the Queen.

"For two hours she bore the discomforts of the day with great patience, and suffered far more than the goodly dames of Edinburgh under the shelter of the Grand Stand. It was amusing to see how rapidly the nobility followed her example. A coupee of hundred carriages were in the enclosure on each side of the space reserved for Royalty. Owing to the rain all the carriages were closed. When Her Majesty drove on the ground it was observed that she was seated in an open carriage. A grandlooking Countess near to me cried out," Her Majesty's carriage is open! James, open ours. And "James," with the help of nobles who split their kid gloves in the doing of it, opened the carriage. In less time than it takes to write it, all the other carriages were also exposed. The Queen's example was universally followed, and the haughty dames of the North sheltered themselves under their umbrellas after the fashion of their Royal mistress. When Her Majesty left the ground at 5-35—not before the last Volunteer had passed her—she smiled and bowed as graciously as when she came, but there was a great pool of water between her and Princess Beatrice, and her general appearance showed that, while rain was no respecter of persons, the Royal umbrella had done very little to shield her from the downpour."

After that I think even the sharpest penman ought to be ashamed of these unkind reflections on the Queen. The meeting of the British Association this year at York (where its first meeting was held in 1831) bids fair to be of unusual interest and will I doubt not attract the attention of your scientific readers. There is a great change in many things since 1831. We can now discuss scientific questions with a freedom unknown at that time and without the risk of being branded as infidel. It has been a severe fight though, and has only been won by the most uncompromising attitude of scientific men. The way in which Darwin and his monkey theory comes up now, again and again, in these scientific congresses is amusing. Able men who have questioned Nature in her heights and depths seem determined to have it that we are sprung from monkeys. It is the reaction against the absurd denunciation of Darwin which prevailed formerly. But I do not believe in the theory.

In Paris the electricians are exhibiting a revolution at which one stands aghast. Everything of motive power, and every source of light, seems on a fair way to be reduced to electricity. And all in one generation! I remember well my own grand-father desiring to see one more new thing before he died, and dying, without having seen it—the locomotive engine. Now, we are to travel by chaining the lightning to our cars. I think the meetings of the English scientific societies this year will be of singular interest to the scientific students of India.

By the way the University of Oxford has selected Colonel Osborn as lecturer on Indian history and rejected Sir Richard Temple. Of course the selection is so far a good one that Temple would have been an absurd historian; but Colonel Osborn is prejudiced and I cannot help thinking allows too little for the opinions of other men. He will, however, be honest and upright, and his ability is as unquestionable as his honour.

COMMERCIAL.

(FROM OUR COMMERCIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Saturday, 24th September, 1881.

We are obliged to bridge our commercial report for want of space. The markets have been unusually dull. Of imports there are large stocks in hand which have led depression in business. Country manufactured yarns have also continued in less demand.

Exports.—Saw Tea and Jute there has been no transaction of importance.

Oil-seeds.—Only in linseed there have been limited transactions at easier rates.

Wheat.—There have been more transactions for forward than for immediate delivery at a slightly higher rate.

Rice about 4500 bags of different descriptions found buyers at about the same rates as last week.

No change in the money market.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

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Government Notifications.

Calcutta Gazette,—*September* 21, 1881.

GENERAL.—Babu Denonath Addy, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Durbhunga, is vested with the powers of a Collector under Act X of 1870 in that district.

Babu Rajmohun Das, temporary Sub-Deputy Collector in the Chittagong Division, is posted to Noakholly, with effect from the date on which he joined that district.

Babu Grishchunder Das, Temporary Sub-Deputy Collector *on settlement duty in Chittagong, is allowed leave for fifteen days, under Section 71, Chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 10th October next.*

Mr. R. H. Greaves, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is posted to Mymensingh, on being relieved of his present duties as Officiating district and Sessions Judge of Dinagepore. Mr. Greaves is appointed to act, until further orders, in the First Grade of Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector.

Mr. L. C Abbot, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is posted to Bhagulpore. Mr. Abbot is appointed to act, until further orders in the First Grade of Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors.

Mr. J. Pratt, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is posted to Purneah, on being relieved of his present duties as Officiating District and Sessions Judge of that district. Mr. Pratt is appointed to act, until futher orders in the First Grade of Joint Magistrates and Deputy Collectors.

JUDICIAL—The order of the 9th August last, granting Babu Beney Madhub Mitter, First Subordinate Judge, Backergunge leave for two months, under Section 72—1, Chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, is cancelled.

Babu Abinashchunder Mookerjee, Moonsif of Palamow, Lohardugga, is appointed to be a Moonsif in the district of Noakholly and to be ordinarily stationed at Sudharam.

Babu Kuronamoy Banerjee, First Moonsif of Sudharam, Noakholly, is appointed to be a Moonsif in the district of Lohardugga, and to be ordinarily stationed at Palamow.

Babu Otoolchunder Ghose, Moonsif of Narail, Jessore, is appointed to be a Moonsif in the district of Midnapore, and to be ordinarily stationed at Dantoon.

Babu Kalinath Dhur, Moonsif of Dantoon, Midnapore, is appointed to be a Moonsif in the district of Jessore, and to be ordinarily stationed at Narail.

Babu Nilmoney Das, Officiating Moonsif of Burrabazar in the district of Manbhoom, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the Third Class and with those of a Deputy Collector under Act X of 1859

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